



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 112th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 157

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011

No. 167

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are concealed, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy Name.

Lord, look with mercy upon our Senators and use them to heal the brokenness in our land. May they use their talents to lead people to replace fear with faith, cynicism with courage, and division with unity. Keep them from the forces that impede them from doing Your will.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable TOM UDALL led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The legislative clerk read as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 3, 2011.

To the Senate:

Under the provision of rule I, paragraph 3 of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TOM UDALL, a Senator from the State of New Mexico, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will debate the motions to proceed to S. 1769 and S. 1786. One is a Democratic-sponsored infrastructure bill, and the other is a Republican-sponsored bill. The time until 3 p.m. will be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees. At about 3 p.m., there will be up to two rollcall votes. The first vote will be on a motion to proceed to S. 1769, the Rebuild America Jobs Act. If that is not successful, there will be a second vote on the motion to proceed to S. 1786. Both motions will require 60 votes.

We also expect to vote on a number of judicial nominations today.

REBUILD AMERICA JOBS ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, yesterday evening, I called my friend from Searchlight, NV, Arthur Fraijo. Arthur's family has been in Searchlight for many years. His mom and dad have passed away. I keep in touch with him. He is a wonderful, hard-working man. I said, "Where are you today, Arthur?" He said, "I am at work." I said, "You're kidding, where are you?" He was at this project out by Primm, a big solar project. I said, "How long have you been working?" I remember that he said it was a matter of weeks. It is the first job he has had in 3 years. He is an iron worker and he is working

now, and he is very happy. Here is an iron worker, a construction worker, who has finally found a job.

In Nevada we have thousands of other people who have been out of work for a long period of time—construction workers such as Arthur. Most are not fortunate enough to have a job such as he has. That is what our legislation is all about. The legislation we will vote on this afternoon deals with putting people back to work, hundreds of thousands of construction workers. This is a bill that does not add more deficit spending. It is paid for, and it is not an attack on millionaires and billionaires. Many millionaires and billionaires are very fortunate in that they may not, in a given year, make a million dollars but they still have assets, so they are millionaires and billionaires. We have made sure that a small percentage of Americans would help us put people such as Arthur back to work.

What we have suggested in our legislation is so reasonable and so fair. What we are saying is that people who make all this money—more than a million dollars a year—should contribute to the restructuring of our economy. The plan is paid for by asking these people to contribute a little more to get the economy back on track. We are not asking all millionaires and billionaires; we are asking the people who have made more than \$1 million a year to pay a little bit extra. It is the right thing to do. It amounts to two-tenths of 1 percent of the people who make money in America—two-tenths of 1 percent.

It is unbelievable that the Republicans have lined up in the past—and we have heard they are going to do the same thing today—in unanimous opposition to this commonsense plan that is supported by people all over America—not Democrats only, not Independents only, but Democrats, Independents, and Republicans.

Americans are crying for jobs, crying for us to pass this bill. This would put

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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